

THE SHAKERITE

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Shaker Heights High School, Shaker Heights, Ohio

May 16, 1980

Chinese Visitors Tour Shaker High

by Mara Sidney

On Tuesday, May 6, Mrs. Yang Zhi-ling and Mr. Lin Bing, two professors from the Beijing (Peking) Normal University in the People's Republic of China, came to visit and observe Shaker Heights High School. The professors work in the field of comparative education. They believe that it is important for educators throughout the world to get to know each other and share ideas. Now, the two are exploring the American system of education. Before they arrived in the United States, all they knew about our schooling system was from books. Here, by observation, they hope to learn about and understand it more completely.

The professors' stay in the United States will last for two years. Their trip is being funded by Kent State Univ. under a program called center for The Study of Socialist Education. They will be based at Kent State University, but plan to travel to the University of Virginia as well as to various schools in Washington D.C. They want to see as many different schools and places as possible since each community has different types of schools.

In Kent and in Cleveland, Mrs. Zhi-ling and Mr. Bing heard from many people about Shaker's fine school system and, therefore, decided to visit. Both were very impressed with what they saw. They commented on the well equipped school facilities and Mrs. Zhi-ling was particularly interested in the P.T.A. She said that there is no type of parent volunteer system in China. She also noticed that here, as in China, the students are highly motivated and seem to enjoy learning. They commended the efficient organization of such a large school. Schools in China have only 600-700 students. Another difference they noticed was that the students here move from classroom to classroom while in China, it is the teachers who

move. Sometime during their stay in the United States, Mrs. Zhi-ling and Mr. Bing would like to come back to Shaker to speak in more depth with the teachers and administrators. Perhaps they will be able to incorporate the aspects that they like into their own system.

Both Mrs. Yang Zhi-ling and Mr. Lin Bing brought warm greetings from the Chinese people. The professors stressed that the Chinese students are eager to make friends with the American students. They believe that the young people will be the builders of better friendship between China and the United States. According to Mr. Bing, "The Chinese teachers and Chinese students love you, we appreciate the friendship you show us here and extend the best regards from the Chinese teachers and students to you."

Greek Students Receive Honors

by Greg Epp

Eight members of Henry Strater's first-year Greek class were awarded honors last month for outstanding scores on the first annual National Greek Examination.

Shaker won eight of the 64 ribbons presented in the 2nd & 3rd categories. Only two students in the nation received the top award, a Ribbon of Highest Honor.

The test, sponsored by the American Classical League, evaluated students' knowledge of Greek grammar and the cultural background of Greek literature. Shaker was one of only three public schools among the 22 colleges and high schools which participated.

Winning Ribbons of High Honor were Gail Gandal, Linda Grossman, Matt Wall, and Wendy Weitzner. Four others, Jane Kaufman, Alexander Nagy, Arthur Smith, and Karen Swenson, earned Ribbons of Merit.



Shaker chemistry teacher Charles Hendrickson was booked by the police when he took part in a mock-trial during Government Intern Day. Story on page 3.

Musical Review Opens; Focuses on Childhood

By Wendy Weitzner

Shaker's latest dramatic production opened in the Large Auditorium last evening and will be presented again tonight and tomorrow night. "Songs To Aging Children" is a musical review about children which appeals to young and old alike. The musical is an original presentation, written and directed by James Thornton and Vince Cardinal. It was written one and a half years ago and performed in Kent, Ohio. Sara Smith, a professional pianist from the Eastman School of Music in New York, will be the accompanist. The 14 member cast performs musical selections from "Free To Be You and Me," "Charlie Brown," and "Dr. Seuss."

"Songs To Aging Children" was chosen by Mr. Thornton as a light, entertaining musical. His purpose in choosing this specific presentation is to attract as many different kinds of people as possible.

The production is similar to "Godspell", or "Jacques Brel", in the sense that there is an ensemble of people working together. There are not specific

assigned characters, but rather a group of people producing a musical review focusing on childhood. The two acts are different; Act I depicts certain childhood experiences, while Act II is characterized by nostalgia and reminiscing.

From this musical, Mr. Thornton plans to create a traveling show, which can be performed every year, with variations, at other schools. He also wishes to use this show as a training program for the members of the cast.

The seven members of Act I are: Karyn Evans, Deborah Michelson, Joanna Milter, Frank Mitchell, Alana Spero, Scott Spero, and Jeff Young. The members of Act II will be joined in Act II by: Joseph Allen, Ellen Archer, Gordon Landefeld, Seth Levy, Helen Maynard, Steve Moss, and Pam Stewart.

To promote "Songs to Aging Children," notices were sent to major Cleveland newspapers, public radio stations, and the television stations which show "Barnaby", and "Captain

Continued on page 2

Opinion

A Frisbee Disc-ussion

by Eric Shaffer

Frisbee is a young and blossoming sport. Year after year since the frisbee was invented in 1948 its popularity has grown. Frisbee play from the purely recreational to the most competitive is widespread. More and more schools from the elementary to the college level offer frisbee programs and boast frisbee teams which play both Ultimate, the most popular frisbee team sport, and freestyle. Shaker, too, should include frisbee in its physical-education curriculum and encourage all types of play.

Undeniably there is a great enough demand for a frisbee offering in gym at Shaker. The front lawn during lunch periods is invariably filled with frisbee enthusiasts winging the disc to and fro, or engaging in an informal game of Ultimate. Shaker's Ultimate team though unofficial, has competed with several teams in the area and recently attended an Ultimate tournament in Oxford, Ohio.

Most major universities offer frisbee instruction and frisbee clubs or teams. Surely Shaker should lead the ranks of high schools in recognizing frisbee as an excellent sport and game. Woodbury Junior High School already offers frisbee in gym. The International Frisbee Association runs workshops instructing school personnel about frisbee play.

Regional and frisbee tournaments are held during the spring and summer culminating in August with the World Championship at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena. These tournaments are extremely tough to qualify for. There is competition in freestyle, Guts, Ultimate, Golf, M.T.A. (Maximum Time Aloft), distance, and accuracy. Freestyle involves keeping the disc moving with various tricks and fancy discwork. Players are judged on complexity, difficulty, style and originality. Ultimate is a field game for two seven-person teams, played on a field sixty by forty meters, not including end zones. Points are scored by passing the disc to a man in the end zone. Passing the disc is the only method for advancing downfield, and incomplete passes result in turnovers. Frisbee golf is played much the same as regular golf, using targets instead of holes.

Frisbee has a great future as an intense and enjoyable sport, and our physical education department can and should help to further its development.

90 Seniors Elect to Go On Projects

by John Hairston

Senior Project is a program which gives seniors the opportunity to plan and conduct a program of independent study during the final three weeks of school.

To participate in the program, seniors must apply, be passing all of their classes, and be prepared to meet all of their graduation requirements at the start of the project. The project starts May 12, and on that day, participating students will have their grades for each subject frozen. This means that the grades they have attained at that point are the grades that they will receive on their report cards. Those students are then exempt from completing further assignments and from taking final exams.

The number of senior project participants in 1980 shall be limited to approximately 20 percent of the senior class. The committee for selection is a joint student-teacher review board which is composed of two teachers and two students. The board will review all applications and recommend to the principal those which it feels should be approved. In charge of the projects are teachers Baird Wiehe and John Schutter.

The second type of project is a creative program. These are projects in which the student either makes or builds something, or researches an area of self-interest. In order to do these projects, a list containing definite objectives considered to be educational equivalents to what could be taught in the classroom is submitted. Two outstanding former projects have included rebuilding an old car and building a robot. Students working on projects are required to make daily entries in a journal or write a paper evaluating their activities and progress. Each student must have as a sponsor an adult who is knowledgeable in the field and to whom he must report at least once a day. All projects must be done within a fifty mile radius of Cleveland, except if the student is working with an elected official.

June 6, in the social room all students and teachers are encouraged to come down in and listen to the seniors talk about and display their projects. Sophomores and juniors may get ideas for projects of their own.

Musical Opens

Continued from page 2

Kangaroo". Short promotional assemblies were held and student art contests were sponsored at all of the elementary schools.

"Songs To Aging Children" will be performed at 8:00 in the large auditorium May 16 and 17. There will also be a special matinee for elementary school students at 2:00 on Sunday, May 18.

THE SHAKERITE

The Shakerite is a bi-weekly publication of the newspaper staff at Shaker Heights High School, 15911 Aldersyde Drive, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120.

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The SAT Horror Show

by Craig Beresford

Whoever designed the SAT must have been a master of psychology. He filled it with a dozen subtle tricks and traps, all designed to make the taker goof up as much as possible.

For example, before the test proper is underway, you have to fill out millions of little boxes with name, address, birthday, and shoe size -- a process guaranteed to get on anybody's nerves. And, of course, you then have to fill in the little ovals containing the alphabet under each box. Ovals! Why couldn't they be nice, easy-to-fill-in rectangles?

While you are taking the test, the nerve-wracking continues. The paragraphs in the reading comprehension section are specially selected for their ability to bore completely the average student. How is one supposed to answer questions about a passage he could barely stay awake through?

At first, the questions they give you are fairly simple. That's to lull you into a false sense of security. As the test progresses and you start to get tired (after two hours in a

metal-backed chair in the cafeteria, who doesn't?), the questions start to get difficult. Of course by this time you're hurting too much to care, and so you put down any answer that seems okay.

By the end of the test, I was hot, tired, and hurting. Still, I do have to give credit to those who designed it. After all, it does take a certain amount of perverse talent to transform a relatively simple test into a torture more diabolical than anything used in the Spanish Inquisition.

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Chemistry Teacher Busted

by Craig Beresford

In keeping with tradition, students who took over Shaker's legal system on Government Intern day, May 8, arrested and tried faculty members on trumped up charges. This year's victims were Charles Hendrickson and Emil Knorr.

According to Mr. Hendrickson, he was seized by several agents of the law at 12:00 noon, after one of his students had unlocked his door while his back was turned. He was then taken to the police station, where he was

fingerprinted and photographed.

At the mock trial, occurring later that day, Mr. Hendrickson was defended by students Michael Scharf and David Friedman. Key Witness Fred Brown testified that the accused had not been in the school on the day upon which his offence had allegedly occurred, but this evidence was discarded by a prejudiced judge. The case was thrown out of court after the jury was unable to reach a decision.

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Baseball Team Wins Seven Straight

by Scott Blackhurst

A lot of good things have happen to the Red Raider Varsity Baseball team since the last edition of the Shakerite. They have won nine games against only three losses. The team has also gained 1st place in the Lake Erie League by compiling a 6-1 record against league foes. And finally, the Red Raiders became Sectional Champions by defeating Garfield and Bedford.

The first of seven straight Raider victories came when they defeated L.E.L. rivalries, Normandy, 10-6. Mike Berg, catcher and co-captain, earned himself a spot on the Plain Dealer Dream Team by hitting two homeruns in that game. In the first Sectional game, a 11-3 victory over Garfield, Darryl Wilson was the star. He got

three hits in four times at bat and also made several catches in right field. An 8-2 win over Parma and a 7-6 triumph over Valley Forge, accounted for two more L.E.L. victories. In the Parma game Dan White slammed a homerun. At Valley Forge, Dean Wheeler slapped a game-winning double. Bedford was the victim when pitcher Jim Bartlett and catcher Mike Berg hit homeruns and gave Shaker a 6-2 triumph in their second and final Sectional game.

The Raiders are now only 4 games away from making a trip

Shaker Wins 7 History Awards

by Liffie Sopher

The National History Day competition was held On April 19 at Cuyahoga Community College, West campus. Twelve Shaker juniors received first, second, or third place awards. The purpose of the contest was to enable history students to research and develop a project about an important person in history. Students who did well in the regional competition will go to the statewide competition on May 17, and then to the nationals in Washington.

Students entered contests for historical papers, group projects, group performances, and individual performances. Shaker took first, second, and third place in the historical papers category. Jeff Bynum's paper on Sir Isaac Newton was awarded first place and it received the Plain Dealer award for the best written paper in the show. Second place went to Tammy Kaminkowski for her essay on Baal Shem Tov, and Lucy Drotning won third place.

In the group projects competition, Randy Solganik, Steve Herman, Mike Ruggie and Scott Garson received first place for their game about Joseph Stalin. Mark Griffin, Mike Scharf, and Eric Bell won second place for their project.

Shaker was awarded second place in the group and individual performances for Liz Owen's rendition of compositions by Scott Joplin and Virginia Harding and Steve Readerman's project about Buster Keaton.

to Columbus to play in the State Tournament. Winning the L.E.L. Championship, however, is their first priority. If the team is

able to continue its winning ways, it will be making reservations at the Arlington Arms hotel in Columbus.

True Leads Squad

Softball Team is 4-6 in League

The Girls' softball team, under the direction of Linda Betley, has 4-6 Lake Erie League record, 4-8 for the whole season. They play a double round in the league, and they have beaten Garfield twice, and Shaw and Cleveland Heights once each.

They began the season during Spring vacation with a 2-4 loss to Parma. Next, they lost a heart-breaker to Valley Forge 17-18. In that game, our Raiders had been winning by 10 runs, 14-4, but they then gave up 11 runs in the fifth inning.

Shaw then traveled to Shaker, and they were handed a resounding 32-8 loss. Against Lakewood, Shaker suffered a 3-7 defeat. The next game lasted 3½ hours, 8 innings, as Shaker won a squeaker over Garfield 26-25. The Raiders used 4 pitchers in that marathon.

Our gals then traveled to Nordonia for a tournament. They faced Mary Misciagna, last year's Northeastern Ohio player of the year. She pitched a no-hitter as Shaker lost 17-0. Shaker's next tournament foe was Brecksville. The Raiders lost 7-12 and finished fourth in

the whole tournament.

Back in the league play, Shaker played Normandy and lost another close one, 11-13. Parma was the next opponent, to start off the second leg of the double round, and they beat our gals in 5 innings, 22-7. Valley Forge visited Shaker and treated their hostesses badly, beating them 9-20.

Shaker visited Garfield and this game lasted 3 hours, 9 innings. After the 7 regulation innings, the teams were knotted at 20. The Raiders scored a whopping 13 runs in the top of the ninth to win 33-20. Shaker traveled to Cleveland Heights the next day and beat the Tigers 15-6.

Lelia True has been a standout this year: She leads the team with a .523 batting average, a .909 on base average, she has scored 29 runs, she has stolen a huge 33 bases, and has hit 5 triples. Miriam Pickus leads the pack with 38 R.B.I.'s. Ellen McWilliams, Shaker's ace pitcher, leads the team with a .929 fielding average, and has 43 put-outs. Chris Hill, who plays both first base and pitcher, has hit 5 homeruns this year.

Track Led by Malby

by Lauren Rich

After a slow start at the beginning of the season, the girls' track team has improved tremendously. Last week, the Raiders rallied together and defeated Shaw in a very close meet at Shaker. The Shaker team received a number of first places. Winners included, star hurdler Alecia Malby, Gail Elmore in the long jump, Sandy Lee and Kym Whitley in the shot and discus respectively, Lauren Rich in the 440-dash, and Carrie Graham in the mile ... Pam Slaughter finished a strong second in the 220-yard dash.

Saturday, May 3, the girls traveled to Willouby-South for the Rebel Relays. They finished ninth with splendid performances in the hurdles and the 440-yard dash by Alecia Malby and Lauren Rich. In the field events, Kym Whitley captured fourth in the shot-put, while Binky Gillon received second place in the discus. The team of Nicky Whitley, Kathy Dixon, and Gail Elmore captured fourth in the long jump competition.

Tuesday, in a triple meet against Lakewood and Normandy, Shaker received second place with a score of 83. Malby and N. Whitley again dominated the hurdles. Suzanne Holman and Pam Slaughter each were awarded second place in their respective events. The 880-yard and 440-yard relay teams were both victorious.

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